

# Exhibit F – Excerpts of Arbitration Hearing Transcript

NFL SYSTEM ARBITRATION  
MAILK MCDOWELL on 02/27/2019

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6 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
7 MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Claimant,

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v.

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10 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
11 PLAYERS ASSOCIATION,

12 Respondent.

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BEFORE SYSTEM ARBITRATOR  
STEPHEN B. BURBANK

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Re: Malik McDowell

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1 APPEARANCES:

2

3 For the Claimant:

4

SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM, LLP

5

BY: ANTHONY DREYER, ESQ.

6

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NFL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

11

MOLLY DELANEY, NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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MATT THOMAS, SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

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14

15

For the Respondent:

16

NFL PLAYERS UNION

17

BY: NED EHRLICH, ESQ.

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21 Also Present: System Arbitrator Stephen B. Burbank

Malik McDowell

22

Joya Crowe

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1 afternoon, Malik.

2 MR. McDOWELL: Good morning -- afternoon.

3 MR. DREYER: Professor Burbank, for the benefit of  
4 Mr. McDowell and his mother, would it be helpful for us to  
5 go through the introduction again of who's on the call?

6 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: I think that's probably  
7 appropriate, and then I'll say what the purpose of the call  
8 is. Then we can get into it.

9 MR. DREYER: Thank you.

10 And, Mr. McDowell, and -- forgive me.

11 Is it Ms. McDowell?

12 MS. CROWE: No. Crowe.

13 MR. DREYER: My name is Anthony Dreyer. I'm with  
14 the firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. We're  
15 representing the National Football League Management  
16 Council. I'm here in New York with my colleague Michael  
17 Folger. Joining me on the call from the National Football  
18 League Management Council is Molly Delaney as well as Matt  
19 Thomas from the Seattle Seahawks.

20 Good afternoon to you, and thank you for joining.

21 MR. EHRLICH: Ned Ehrlich from the NFL Players  
22 Association on behalf of Malik McDowell and the NFL Players  
23 Association.

24 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Okay. And this is System  
25 Arbitrator Stephen Burbank, and I convened this telephone

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1 conference at the parties' request to consider a Proposed  
2 Order -- to consider entering a Proposed Order in the  
3 proceeding that the Management Council, on behalf of the  
4 Seahawks, initiated against Mr. Malik for forfeiture of  
5 Signing Bonus allocations pursuant to an alleged breach of  
6 Paragraph 3 of the Player Contract.

7 My understanding, Mr. Malik, is that you do not  
8 contest the forfeiture of the 2017 and 2018 Signing Bonus  
9 allocations; is that correct?

10 MR. MCDOWELL: That's right.

11 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Do you understand that the  
12 Order that I've been asked to sign reserves the right of the  
13 Seahawks to seek forfeiture of the 2019 and 2020 Signing  
14 Bonus allocations if the Seahawks' physician concludes that  
15 [REDACTED]?

16 MR. MCDOWELL: I understand.

17 MS. CROWE: Wait a minute. 2019 and 2020?

18 MR. EHRLICH: And we have reserved the right to  
19 contest that, [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED].

22 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Right.

23 My understanding, Mr. Malik, is that that issue has  
24 been put off to the future, that the Order, apart from  
25 preserving that right, simply deals with 2017 and 2018.

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1 MR. MCDOWELL: Okay.

2 MR. EHRLICH: That is correct.

3 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Do you have any questions,  
4 Mr. McDowell, about the proceeding?

5 Mr. McDOWELL: No. I've basically been told what's  
6 going on.

7 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: If you have any questions or  
8 concerns or issues, I wish you would raise them.

9 Mr. McDOWELL: I don't.

10 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Okay. Let me then ask counsel  
11 if you have any matters that you want to raise that I should  
12 hear before deciding whether or not to sign this Order.

13 MR. EHRLICH: This is Ned Ehrlich from the NFL  
14 Players Association. We don't have any questions as it  
15 pertains to the Order that is being proposed. As indicated  
16 earlier, we do reserve the right, if there is any subsequent  
17 proceeding regarding the 2019 or 2020, to address the issues  
18 of Mr. McDowell's ongoing ability or inability to play.

19 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Right. I understand that, and  
20 Mr. McDowell said he understood it, as well. Anything --

21 Mr. Dreyer?

22 MR. DREYER: Thank you, Professor. Nothing with  
23 respect to the substance of the Order. As we previously  
24 indicated, if you are inclined to enter the Order, we would  
25 respectfully request that it be entered on or before

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1 March 13th in the current league year, but otherwise, we  
2 certainly have no further questions.

3 We thank you for your attention in this matter.

4 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Okay. The Order is going to  
5 be -- I will enter the Order, and I'm going to enter it  
6 today; and I will send to all of you on the email trail a  
7 scanned copy of the Executed Order, just the signature page.

8 MR. EHRLICH: Thank you, your Honor.

9 MR. DREYER: Thank you.

10 MR. McDOWELL: Does that mean I'll be released  
11 today?

12 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: According to the Order --  
13 according to the Order, Mr. McDowell, you will be released  
14 after the Order is executed, which I don't know whether it  
15 will be today or tomorrow.

16 MR. McDOWELL: Okay.

17 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Anything else?

18 MR. McDOWELL: No.

19 MR. EHRLICH: No, sir.

20 MR. DREYER: As a logistical --

21 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: Well, thank you very much.

22 MR. DREYER: Forgive me, Professor. I was going to  
23 say, as a logistical matter, I will, after the call, provide  
24 everybody with the full contact information for the court  
25 reporter and will provide her your email and Mr. Ehrlich's

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1 email as well so she can circulate the transcript once it's  
2 ready.

3 ARBITRATOR BURBANK: That would be great. Thank  
4 you.

5 Okay. I wish you all a pleasant evening. Thank  
6 you.

7 THE REPORTER: Mr. Ehrlich, are you going to want a  
8 copy?

9 MR. EHRLICH: Yes, I do. This is Ned Ehrlich, and I  
10 do want a copy.

11 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

12 MR. DREYER: Thank you, everyone.

13 MR. EHRLICH: Thank you.

14 MS. DELANEY: Thank you.

15 MS. MCDOWELL: Thank you.

16 (Thereupon, the proceedings were concluded at  
17 1:23 p.m.)

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1 I, AMANDA SALANITRO, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and  
2 Registered Notary Public of the State of New York, duly  
3 authorized to administer oaths, do hereby certify:

4  
5 That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at  
6 the time and place herein set forth; that a record of the  
7 proceedings was made by me using machine shorthand which was  
8 thereafter transcribed under my direction; that the  
9 foregoing transcript is a true record of the testimony  
10 given.

11  
12 I further certify I am neither financially interested  
13 in the action nor a relative or employee of any attorney or  
14 party to this action.

15  
16 WITNESS WHEREOF, I have this date subscribed my name.

17 Dated: February 27, 2019

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AMANDA SALANITRO, CSR NO. 14035

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